

Family Law Conference

Thursday, 30th January 2020 | 9.25 am - 4.30 pm

St Mellion Resort, St Mellion, Saltash, Cornwall PL12 6SD

This training day is designed for family lawyers undertaking financial remedies or private law children work.

The conference will provide the latest procedural, case law and legislative updates from experienced lawyers and is recommended to all busy family law practitioners looking for an update in the law and to assist with their day-to-day practice. This year, our team of experts will lead a mock trial which will touch upon PI damages acquired post-separation.

Book your place by visiting:
www.stjohnschambers.co.uk/events-and-seminars

Programme

Family Law Conference - 30th January 2020

9.00 - 9.25am	Registration and refreshments
9.25 - 9.30am	Introduction by Nick Miller Conference Chair and Barrister, St John's Chambers
9.30 - 10.15am	Notices to show cause Nick Miller, Barrister, St John's Chambers
10.15 - 11.15am	Thorny Questions <ol style="list-style-type: none">Which way is the judiciary leaning towards in relation to quantum and duration of maintenance and lifetime maintenance orders?Life after Waggott - where are we with lifetime earnings and bonuses? Sophie Smith-Holland and Harriet Dudbridge, Barristers, St John's Chambers
11.15 - 11.30am	Refreshments
11.30 - 12.30pm	Private law children update and practical tips in relation to PD 12J and fact find hearings Iain Large and Oliver Riley, Barristers, St John's Chambers
12.30 - 1.30pm	Lunch
1.30 - 2.30pm	How to look beneath the surface of the common intention constructive trust and Schedule 1 - what factors will make a difference? Zoë Saunders, Head of Divorce and Financial Remedy, Barrister, St John's Chambers
Refreshments will be provided for you to enjoy and take with you to the mock trial below.	
2.30 - 4.30pm	Mock Trial Nick Miller, Zoë Saunders, Oliver Riley, Iain Large, Harriet Dudbridge, Sophie Smith-Holland of St John's Chambers with guest panellist, Phil Thorneycroft, Partner at Wolferstans. Our experts will lead a mock trial which will touch upon PI damages acquired post separation – details to follow.
4.30pm	Close

Presenters



Nick Miller, Barrister
(Call 1993)
St John's Chambers

"Nick is highly thought of for his work in the ancillary relief sphere, representing clients in high-value cases with complex pension, trust, farm and company elements. 'Practical and pragmatic. He has great attention to detail and delivers every time.' 'His preparation is thorough and he has a comprehensive knowledge of the law.' "

CHAMBERS UK, 2019
FAMILY/MATRIMONIAL

Nick advises and represents clients solely in financial remedy issues, particularly complex high value pensions, farm and company cases. He enjoys an enviable reputation for his expertise and is consistently ranked by the legal directories for his ancillary relief advice. As a former solicitor and partner with a Bristol firm, Nick offers a depth to his experience to his practice. Nick was a founder member of the SFLA (now Resolution) and secretary of the Bristol SFLA for ten years.



Zoë Saunders, Barrister
(Call 2003)
St John's Chambers

"Zoë has an extremely good grasp of the law and is a very confident advocate. She is also very good with clients.' 'Always impressive and always thorough, she is a formidable advocate as well as a skilled negotiator.' "

CHAMBERS UK, 2019
FAMILY/MATRIMONIAL

Zoë has extensive experience of cohabitation disputes involving ToLATA and Applications under Schedule 1 of the Children Act, and is often asked to advise both in writing and in conference as well as acting in disputed cases in the High Court, County Court and before the land registry adjudicator. She has expertise in financial remedy cases involving multiple properties, trusts of land, complex pensions and insolvency. Zoë has experience in cases involving confiscation order and proceeds of crime act issues and international enforcement of maintenance orders. Zoë also has a fast-growing professional negligence practice.



Iain Large, Barrister
(Call 2016)
St John's Chambers

Iain is rapidly developing a strong private law children and family finance practice. In children cases, he has regularly represented parents in applications for section 8 and other orders from first appointments through to fact-finding and final hearings. He has experience handling issues including residence and contact, drug and alcohol use, section 7 and section 37 reports, domestic abuse and 16.4 guardians.

Iain is also familiar with applications for non-molestation and occupation orders and transfers of tenancy. In matrimonial finance cases, he has appeared for applicant and respondent in First Appointment, FDR and final hearings in his own right across the Western Circuit. Iain also has advised and represented clients in Schedule 1 cases and ToLATA proceedings under the CPR, including where common intention constructive trusts arise.



Oliver Riley, Barrister
(Call 2013)
St John's Chambers

Oliver is a family barrister and accepts instructions in all areas of family law. Oliver appears on behalf of applicants and respondents at all stages of the financial remedies process, including FDA's, FDR's, application hearings and final hearings. Oliver also accepts instructions in relation to applications brought under Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989. Oliver has a particular interest in disputes arising under the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996, acting on behalf of claimants and defendants. He frequently advises on the merits of pursuing a claim prior to issue and drafts pleadings at all stages of the litigation process. Oliver also represents clients at interim and final hearings. He represents parents in applications for Child Arrangements, Specific Issue and Prohibited Steps Orders. He has also acted on behalf of the Children's Guardian. Oliver appears at all stages of the court process, from first appointments through to contested final hearings.



Phil Thorneycroft, Partner
Wolferstans

Phil has been qualified as a solicitor since 1 October 1982 and his main areas of practice are divorce, financial provision and public law children matters. He joined Wolferstans in 1982 and became a Partner in 1988. In respect of his divorce work which takes up around 60% of his caseload, Phil has helped over his career thousands of clients and his main expertise are dealing with high asset financial divorce cases, prenuptial agreements and cohabitee disputes. He has particular expertise in cases which involve company assets, farming families, pensions and the Armed Forces. He also practices as a collaborative lawyer. Phil is a member of Resolution.

In respect of his children work which makes up the remaining 40% of his caseload, Phil primarily acts on behalf of children and children's guardians in public law matters where he has considerable experience in difficult Care and adoption cases having represented hundreds of children before Magistrates, district Judges and Circuit and High Court Judges. Phil has been appointed to the Law Society's Children panel as a specialist in acting for children in care proceedings. Phil is a member on the Local Family Justice Board and an associate member of the National Association of Guardians and Reporting Officers. Phil also sits on the Plymouth Law Society Committee. Phil is described in Chambers UK 2017 as having "significant expertise acting for children and guardians on public children law cases, with care and adoption being particular specialisms. He is also adept at taking on finance issues, and sources note that "his experience is second to none."

“A renowned team of silk and junior practitioners that offers coverage of all aspects of family law. Barristers at the set take on high-value finance instructions as well as public and private child law cases. They also possess impressive trial experience in the Court of Protection. 'They operate with reassuring professionalism.' ”

CHAMBERS UK, 2018
FAMILY/MATRIMONIAL



**Sophie Smith-Holland,
Barrister (Call 2015)
St John's Chambers**

"I was really impressed with Sophie's work, thoroughness, calm and ability to deal with the very difficult LIP on the other side without losing sight of the issues. I look forward to continuing to work with her."

SOLICITOR, 2018
FOLLOWING TWO DAY CONTESTED FACT-FINDING HEARING

Sophie is developing a broad and varied children private law practice. She is regularly instructed in cases involving allegations of domestic abuse and substance misuse. She conducts all hearings from initial hearings, through to finding of fact hearings and final hearings. She is also regularly instructed in concurrent or stand-alone proceedings under Part IV Family Law Act 1996 concerning applications for occupation orders and non-molestation orders. Sophie also represents applicants and respondents at all stages of financial proceedings; from FDAs and FDRs through to final hearing. She accepts instructions in relation to applications brought under Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989 and ToLATA 1996.

About the team

With its reputation as one of the leading family law sets in the South West, St John's Family & Divorce team provide advice and representation nationally on all family matters. Our team consists of 3 silks and 24 barristers, and they are well-known not only for their legal expertise, but also for their personable and friendly manner with clients, whether at court, in conference or over the telephone.



**Harriet Dudbridge, Barrister
(Call 2015)
St John's Chambers**

Harriet has joined chambers after her completion of pupillage under the supervision of Susan Hunter. Harriet joins St John's Chambers as a Justice First Fellow, a scheme devised by the Legal Education Foundation for the next generation of social welfare lawyers. Harriet is developing a busy and varied practice in children private law. Harriet is regularly instructed in a variety of hearings from FHDRA's to finding of fact and final hearings. Harriet has represented applicants and respondents in financial remedy proceedings, including FDAs and FDRs. She also accepts instructions in relation to applications brought under Schedule 1 of the Children Act 1989 and ToLATA 1996 and has represented claimants at CCMC. Harriet has also successfully advocated a client who opposed decree absolute.